(e) No, Sir. Adequate candidates with revised and higher physical standards are available from all these regions.

Throwing out of passengers from the Farakka Express by armymen

808. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some armymen had thrown five passengers out of the Farakka Express at Sikohabad in Firozabad district in Uttar Pradesh on 23rd January, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Army has ordered a court of inquiry into the incident;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the inquiry report has since been received; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the accused armymen and the compensation paid to the next of kin of the victims?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (f) On 23.1.2005, some persons were allegedly pushed out from Train No. 3483 Farakka Express at Shikohabad Railway Station. At that moment Train No. 2393 Up Sampurna Kranti Express passed through and 5 of these passengers were run over by that train. The Army has ordered a Court of Inquiry to investigate involvement, if any, of any Army personnel. The report has not yet been received.

As regards compensation to the next of kin of the victims, the same is paid after a claim is filed in the Railway Claims Tribunal and a decree is awarded. Since no compensation claim has yet been filed by the victims'-families, no compensation has been paid.

Expansion plans of coast guard

809. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coast Guard has ambitious expansion plans for 2005-2006 and 2006-2007;